



ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE:
Levers for Building the Africa we Want



TERMS OF REFERENCE

**RECRUITMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT FOR THE
INVENTORY AND STUDY OF ENDOGENOUS MECHANISMS OF
CONFLICT PREVENTION, MANAGEMENT AND RESOLUTION IN
CENTRAL AFRICA**

I- BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The African continent is often the scene of armed conflicts that undermine the way societies live together. The damage caused by war is considerable. They range from the loss of human life to the economic stagnation, the massive destruction of infrastructure and even damage to cultural heritage.

Faced with this situation, many international interventions are made to find solutions to these conflicts. But for a 'lasting' peace, African solutions could be found to African problems. They would consist of drawing on the continent's traditions, whose cultural heritage can play a significant role in maintaining peace.

Indeed, in Africa, there are endogenous mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts that rely on traditional and customary authorities in their respective communities. Even if their scope is not 'national', these endogenous systems have mechanisms that can be exploited to help cultivate peace as provided for in Article 14 of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance in its Title III: 'Elders and traditional leaders are cultural actors in their own right. Their role and importance deserve official recognition so that they can be integrated into modern conflict resolution mechanisms and systems of intercultural dialogue. "

In some countries, there are, for example, "people who have the floor" and whose mission is to reconcile populations and render justice in traditional courts. In Rwanda, these are the "Gacaca" people's courts. In Congo, they are the Nzonzi, the Kani and in Angola the Mpofi. In other West African countries such as Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Togo, Guinea, etc., inter-ethnic alliances and joking relatives play a significant role in the resolution of disputes within communities. In Burkina Faso for example, in 2014, the influence of the Mossi Emperor called 'Mogho Naaba' was important in the resolution of conflicts in this country.

With the aim of using the rich African cultural heritage for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts on our continent, the Centre for Linguistic and Historical Studies by Oral Tradition (CELHTO), a specialised office of the African Union Commission based in Niamey, Niger and the Ecole du Patrimoine Africain - EPA, a pan-African organisation specialised in the conservation and mediation of cultural heritage based in Porto-Novo, Benin, within the framework of their framework cooperation agreement, wanted to carry out a study whose objective is to make an inventory of these traditional systems with a view to their revitalisation and valorisation.

As a first phase having been carried out in West Africa in 2019, the present terms of reference are drawn up with a view to recruiting a consultant to conduct this study in Central Africa.¹

II- OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTANCY

2.1. GENERAL OBJECTIVE

This work aims to make an inventory and study of traditional systems of conflict prevention management and resolution in Central Africa.

¹ According to the distribution of the African Union, Central Africa includes the following 9 countries: Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sao Tome and Principe, and Chad.

2.2. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- establish an exhaustive literature review of existing scientific work on endogenous conflict prevention and/or resolution systems in Central Africa, mainly, but with at least one major reference in each of the other regions of Africa as defined by the African Union
- draw up a clear and detailed inventory of these different methods of prevention and resolution in this region;
- To study each of these methods in order to facilitate their understanding and their links with African cultures
- Make recommendations to the AU Commission to guide the development of an African strategy (based on the methods identified) for conflict prevention and resolution

2.3. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

At the end of this study, a full consultation report is expected with the following outcomes:

- an exhaustive literature review on existing scientific work on endogenous conflict prevention and/or resolution systems in Central Africa is available
- a clear and detailed inventory of the various local methods of conflict prevention and resolution in Central Africa is drawn up
- a study of each of these methods is carried out in order to facilitate their understanding and their links with African cultures
- Recommendations are made to the AU Commission to guide the project to develop an African strategy (based on the methods thus highlighted) for conflict prevention and resolution.

III- DURATION OF THE STUDY

The study will last 90 days. This includes field surveys and report writing.

IV- METHODOLOGICAL GUIDELINES AND TIMEFRAME

To carry out this mission, the two partners wish to call upon a consultant.

After recruitment, the following indicative steps will be agreed between the consultant and CELHTO, including the duration of each step. The total duration of the mission (excluding the restitution and integration of the amendments) should not exceed 3 months.

Step 1: Literature review.

Literature review: the documentary review will cover documentation on endogenous conflict prevention and/or resolution mechanisms in Africa, studies on similar themes, etc. Other documents deemed useful by the consultant may be used.

It will last 15 calendar days.

Step 2:

Field surveys and data analysis:
Drafting of the interim report:

This will take 60 calendar days.

This stage will be entirely the responsibility of the group, which may consult the sponsors at any time for additional information.

Step 3: Restitution of the study:

The consultant will submit the results of the study in the form of an interim report that will be validated at a workshop to be organised by the sponsors.

The participants will make amendments to the document submitted to them with a view to improving it.

Step 4: Integration of amendments.

The consultant will take into account the amendments resulting from the validation workshop. After the consultant has taken the amendments into account, a final version of the document will be sent to the sponsors. The consultant will submit two physical copies of the final version and one electronic copy.

It will last 15 calendar days.

The consultancy work starts no later than 10 days after the contract is signed. The final report and its annexes should be submitted to CELHTO within a reference period of 90 days after the start of the service.

The contractor will submit a proposed implementation schedule.

V- PROFILE OF THE CONSULTANT

The consultant must be an African researcher, teacher-researcher or professional with a solid knowledge of African cultures. More specifically, the consultant should have the following profile:

- be a national of one of 9 countries of the region;
- be fluent and well-written in French or English, and have a good knowledge of the second language;
- be a historian, sociologist, anthropologist, or an expert in African culture, certified by a university degree of at least BAC + 4;
- have at least 5 years of experience in research, field data collection and/or in conducting studies in the field of culture
- have an excellent knowledge of the functioning of international institutions
- have a good knowledge of conflict prevention, resolution and peacekeeping issues
- have a good command of computers and a good ability to present results in a synthetic form for use by decision-makers.

VI- REMUNERATION

The consultant will receive an amount of US \$7,000,000 which will be paid as follows:

- 40% of the total amount upon signature of the contract ;
- 30% on submission of the interim report;
- 30% upon submission and acceptance of the final report.

VII- PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

The document required for the submission of a consultancy proposal should include:

- **a CV of the consultant ;**
- **The methodological framework:** Its main purpose is to ensure a common understanding of the present terms of reference, in particular its objectives and expected results. To this end, the consultant will explain his understanding of the assignment to the sponsors, as well as the approach he intends to take to carry out the study, including the fieldwork. If necessary, clarifications will be provided by the sponsors.
- **the intervention plan and the organisation of the data collection and protocols;**
- **the work plan and timetable; - a detailed financial proposal for the implementation of the study**
- **a detailed financial proposal for the implementation of the survey.** The financial proposal should include the countries to be visited, travel and accommodation costs and other applicable budget lines.

VIII- ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The contractor must be able to demonstrate its ability and commitment to avoid conflicts of interest and to ensure its objectivity and impartiality in carrying out the assignment.

The contractor is responsible for the clarity, accuracy, coherence and veracity of the oral or written presentation of the information provided and the results of the research.

IX- TIMEFRAME

30 March 2021: launch of the call of applications

30 April 2021: closing date for receipt of applications

10 May 2021: Notification of results.

Proposals should be sent by email to celhto@africa-union.org, with copies to kassalob@africa-union.org, tubluk@africa-union.org and zeinaboum@celhto.org

For any further information, please contact CELHTO at the following address: P.O. Box 878 Niamey (Niger) Tel.: (227) 20 73 54 14 - Fax (227) 20 73 36 54

Email: celhto@africa-union.org with copy to kassalob@africa-union.org

CELHTO reserves the right not to follow up on this call for tenders.